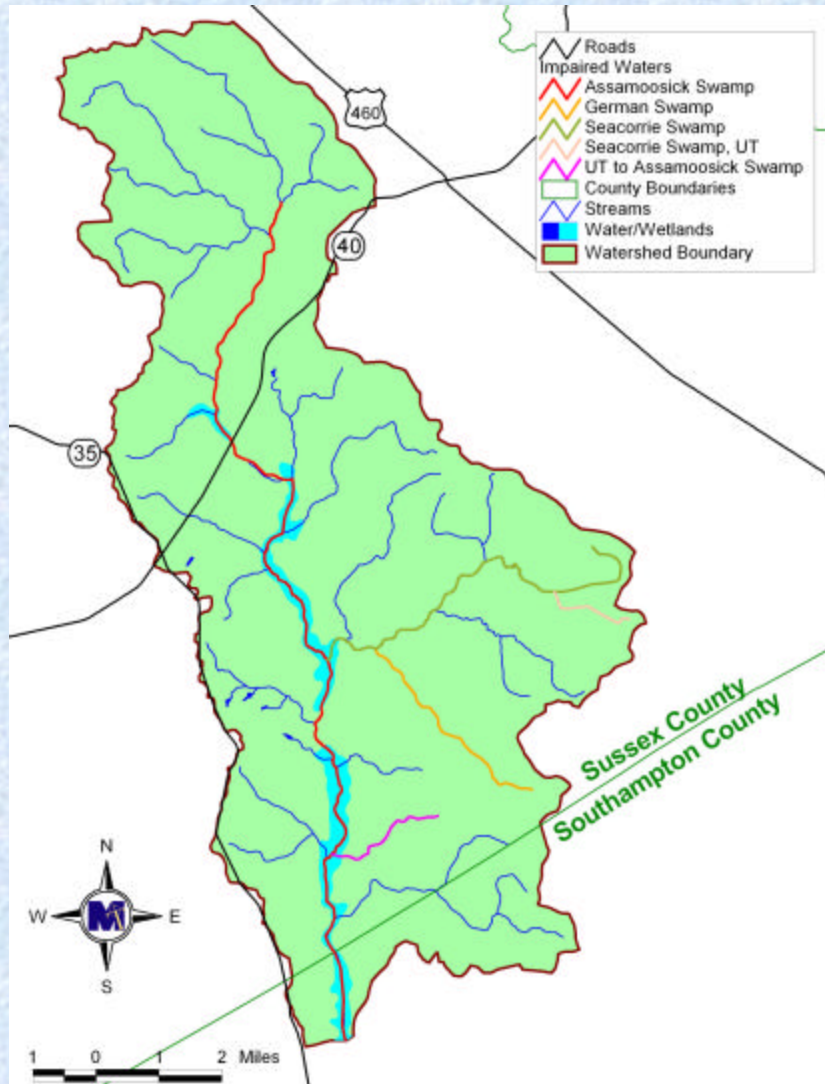


# **Bacteria TMDL Development for the Assamoosick Swamp & Tributaries**



**Final Public  
Meetings**

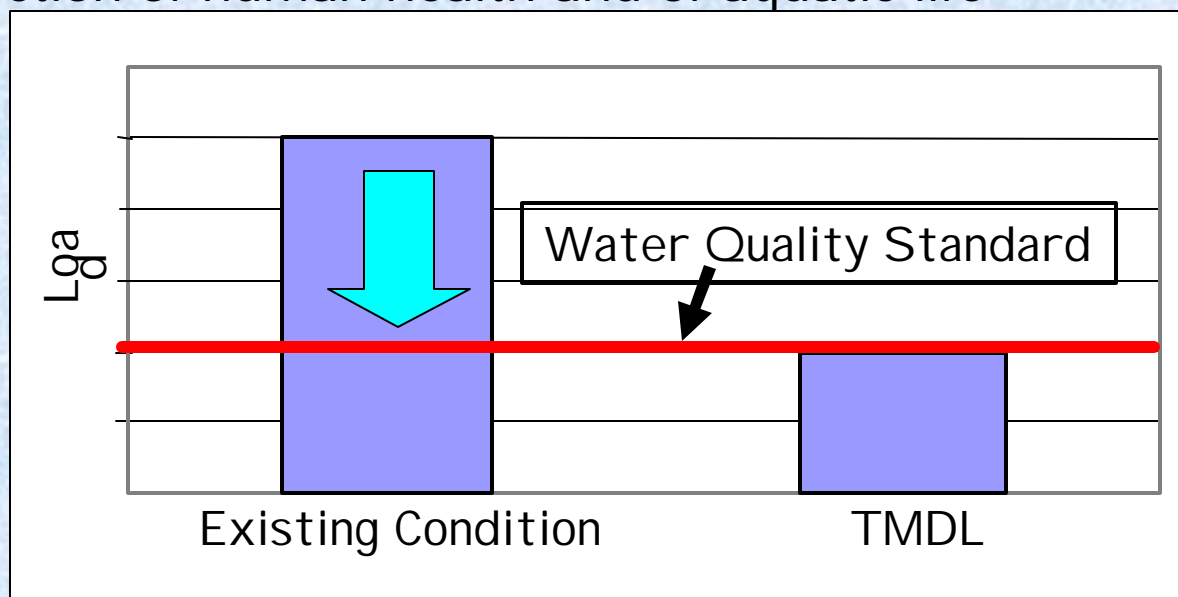
**March 4, 2009  
Sussex, VA**



# *What is a TMDL?*

**TMDL** = Total Maximum Daily Load = maximum amount of a pollutant that can exist in a waterbody without violating water quality standards (WQS)

**WQS** = numeric or narrative limits on pollutants that ensure the protection of human health and of aquatic life



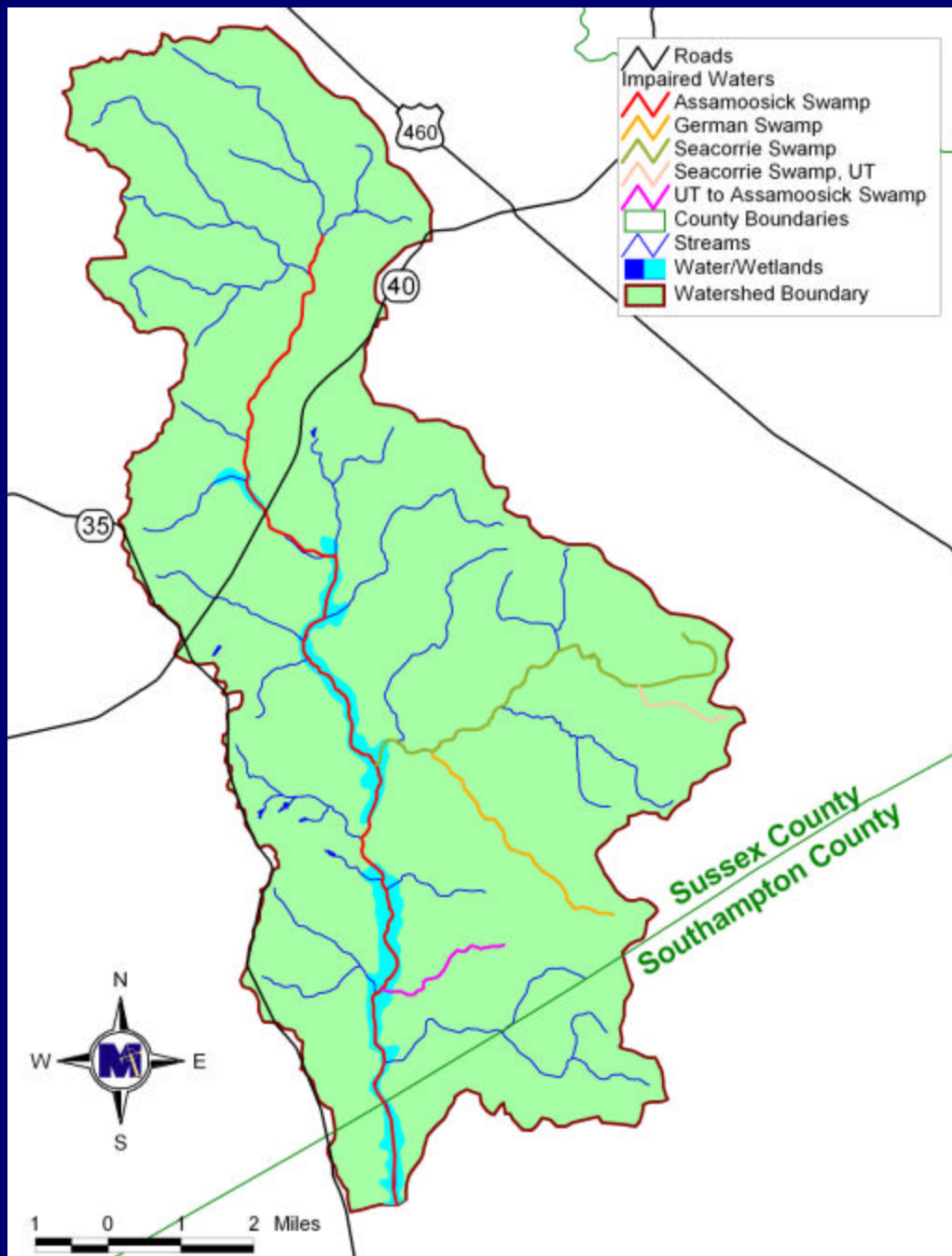
Reducing existing bacteria load to the TMDL end point load is expected to restore water quality.



# ***Why are TMDL studies necessary?***

- **TMDLs must be developed for water bodies that do not meet water quality standards for their designated uses (Clean Water Act 1972)**
  - Primary Contact (Swimming)
  - Public Water Supply
  - Aquatic Life
  - Fish Consumption
  - Shellfish Consumption
  - Wildlife
- **Waters are monitored by DEQ – those not meeting water quality standards are placed on an impaired waters list (303d list) published every 2 years as part of the “305b/303d Integrated Report”.**
- **As of 2008 ~1100 TMDLs are due in Virginia by 2020**

# Assamoosick Swamp and Tributaries Watershed



All of these segments are listed as impaired on DEQ's 303d list

# *Next Steps...*

- **30 Day Public Comment Period**

**\*\*\*Ends April 3, 2010\*\*\***

- Send comments with the name, address, and telephone number of the commenter.

**SEND Comments TO:** **DEQ - Piedmont Regional Office**  
**Attn: Margaret Smigo**  
**4949-A Cox Road**  
**Glen Allen, VA 23060**  
**[Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Margaret.Smigo@deq.virginia.gov)**

- **DEQ will respond to comments and incorporate them into the final report**
- **TMDL Final Draft will be submitted to EPA and SWCB for approval**
- **Approved TMDL is eligible for Implementation Planning (IP). DCR and DEQ will coordinate to complete IP when funding is available**
- **Implementation is begun and DEQ will continue sampling to monitor progress**



# *How can 'I' help?*

## **PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TMDL AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING!**

- Attend TMDL development meetings & implementation planning meetings
- Review draft report & send us comments during the 30-day comment period
- Minimize runoff from property
  - install pervious surfaces vs. impervious surfaces
  - Rainbarrels, raingardens, etc.
  - Maintain riparian (stream-side) buffers
- Don't feed wildlife!!! Educate your neighbors!
- Get Involved! Connect with local watershed groups or form a neighborhood/local watershed club
- Volunteer with DEQ's Citizen Monitoring Program
- Pick up after pets
- Maintain septic systems (5-yr pump-out)
  - Follow VDH guidelines (ie - don't drive over septic tanks)

# Questions??

**Presentations and handouts available at:**

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl/mtgppt.html>

**Draft Report available at:**

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/TMDLDataSearch/DraftReports.jsp>